US Army Corps of Engineers®
Engineer Research and Development Center

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Background

The U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) is one of the most diverse engineering and scientific research organizations in the world. The ERDC conducts R&D in support of the Soldier, military installations, and the Corps of Engineers civil works mission, as well as for other federal agencies, state and municipal authorities, and with U.S. industry through innovative work agreements.

Organization

The ERDC synergistically addresses R&D in four major areas: Battlespace Environment, Military Engineering, Environmental Quality/Installations, and Civil Works/Water Resources through the capabilities of seven laboratories: Construction Engineering Research Laboratory in Champaign, Ill.; Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory in Hanover, N.H.; Topographic Engineering Center in Alexandria, Va.; and the Coastal and Hydraulics, Geotechnical and Structures, Environmental, and Information Technology Laboratories in Vicksburg, Miss. ERDC has a staff of more than 2,000 engineers, scientists and support personnel, with an annual research program approaching $700 million.

Technical Areas

ERDC R&D focuses on five primary technical areas to support the Army and the Corps:

- Warfighter Support – geospatial information; system development; operational support; force protection; and force projection and sustainment
- Installations – transformation; operations; and environmental issues
- Environment – remediation and restoration; land planning, stewardship and management; threatened and endangered species; and cultural resources
- Water Resources – infrastructure, water resources, environmental issues, and navigation; and flood control and storm damage reduction
- Information Technology – informatics; geospatial technologies; computational services; high performance computing applications

Facilities and Expertise

The ERDC hosts one of four Department of Defense High Performance Computing Centers; the ERDC center has four supercomputers with a capability of 6.4 trillion calculations a second. Other unique and world-class facilities include the world's most powerful centrifuge, blast effects facilities, physical models of river and coastal projects, endangered species laboratories, heavy vehicle simulators, hazardous waste research laboratories, frost and ice engineering facilities, and an 1800-foot coastal research pier.

The most impressive asset of the ERDC is its people – the expertise and education of its research team allows the ERDC to provide solutions to our nation's most complex challenges. The ERDC staff includes 1,036 engineers and scientists, many with advanced degrees (27% hold doctorates and 41% hold master's degrees). ERDC outreach and partnering efforts result in numerous cooperative R&D agreements engaging leading experts from academia, private industry, and other agencies.

Point of Contact

For more information, please visit the ERDC Web site at www.erdc.usace.army.mil, or contact the ERDC Public Affairs Office by telephone at (601) 634-2505.